

Benton County Democrats Executive Committee

07/5/2021

Meeting called to order 6:30 pm

Attending in person: Judi Johannesen, Kitty Tominey, Carl Baker, Julie Soderquist, Justin Raffa, Chris Tracy, Sebastian Malachar via Zoom: Shir Regev, Kendall Miller, Allison Dabler

Adopt Agenda

Motion to approve agenda, seconded, approved by all

Secretary's Report / Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as presented, seconded, approved by all

Treasurer's Report (Durga Victorine)

Not present, no report

Chair (Judi Johannesen)

Participated in candidate interviews. Worked with Justin, Durga, and Carl to craft an op-ed for the TCH, which appeared in yesterday's edition. Approached Andy Miller about restarting the annual Miller dinner next fall,

Elections (Justin Raffa)

The elections committee has conducted interviews with the following—

- Elizabeth Vann Clark, Semi Richland School Board Pos 3
- Ben Griggs, Rick Jansons Richland School Board Pos 2
- Maricela Sanchez Prosser City Council Pos 2
- Josh Skipper Kinna-Benton School Board District 2 unopposed
- Gail Brown West Richland City Council Pos 3

Ben Griggs formally asked for a recommendation. The committee elected not to make a recommendation in this race.

The following candidates declined our invitation to interview—

- Ryan Lukson, City of Richland Pos 4
- Ken Hohenberg, Port of Kennewick Commissioner unopposed
- Brent Gerry, West Richland Mayor

The non GOP-backed school board candidates will be holding a candidate forum this Sunday July 11 at 6:00 PM at the HAPO Stage in John Dam Plaza. The Benton County Republican Party has done two rounds of endorsements for the current non-partisan election cycle which can be viewed on their Facebook page

1st VC & Organizing (Allison Dabler)

Hopeful that everyone is doing T3 version 2 training. Working on helping candidates determine where to focus their efforts.

2nd VC (Dori Luzzo Gilmour)

Not present, no report

SCM 1 (Shir Regev)

No report

SCM 2 & Young Dems (Sabastian Marichalar)

No report

Resolutions (Kitty Tominey)

Have not received any further comments on the four resolution statements sent last month. Hope to get the final resolutions sent out soon. Working on a position paper on agrivoltaics. Looking at the possibility of working on the issue of global warming.

Labor (Jessica Wadsworth)

Not present, no report

Events & Tri City Dems (Carl Baker)

Next TCD event is another candidate forum on July 9. Will work with Franklin County Dems to split costs for the Benton County fair. Working on replacing the booth backdrop - one suggestion is to project images onto a screen. Already have access to a projector and screen.

8th LD (Chris Tracy)

Fielded requests for access to Vote Builder from two candidates. Seems to be a need for a better-defined process for future requests. There's time to formalize a process in time for the 2023 election cycle. Attended TCD June event; introduced the 8th LD to candidates.

16 LD

Not present, no report

Franklin County

Not present, no report

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Good of the Order

Justin is hosting a fundraising event for Danica Garcia, focussing on the local arts community.

Motion to Adjourn 7:32 pm, seconded, approved by all